

REMARKS

Claims 1-37 are pending in the subject application. The claim numbering has been corrected, with the second claim 18 being renumbered as claim 37. Claims 1 and claim 22 have been amended; claims 2-4 and 23-25 have been cancelled. Claims 1-3, 8, 9, 11, 12, 18, 20, 22, 23, 24, 28, 29 and 33 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 5,506,393 to Ziarno ('393). Claims 7 and 32 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over '393. Claims 4-6, 16 and 25-27 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over '393 further in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,519,572 to Riordan et al. ('572). Claim 17 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over '393 in view of '572 and further in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,539,446 to Chan ('446). Claims 10 and 13-15 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over '393 further in view of U.S. Patent No. 4,965,719 to Shoens et al. ('719). Claims 18, 30 and 31 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over '393 and further in view of U.S. Patent No. 5,665,952 to Ziarno ('952). Claims 19, 21 and 34 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over '393 and further in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,535,871 to Romansky et al. ('871).

Claim Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. 102

The Examiner has rejected claims 1-3, 8, 9, 11, 12, 18, 20, 22, 23, 24, 28, 29 and 33 under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 5,506,393 to Ziarno ("Pat '393"). Applicants respectfully submit that based on the foregoing amendments and the reasons set forth below, the claims are allowable.

In the foregoing amendments, the following limitations have been added to claim 1:
a master island containing a compilation of the fields in the virtual data islands;
a linking table including a compilation of unique identifiers of the individuals whose
records are in the virtual data islands; wherein the results of the analysis are used in fundraising
campaigns;

Applicants respectfully submit that Pat '393 does not disclose or teach a master island containing a compilation of the fields in the virtual data islands, and a linking table including a

compilation of unique identifiers of the individuals whose records are in the virtual data islands; wherein the results of the analysis are used in fundraising campaigns.

Furthermore, Applicants submit that the donation kettle 100 of Pat '393 is not equivalent to the virtual data island recited in claim 1 of the present application. The virtual data islands 108A-108D illustrated in FIG. 1 of the present application are formed by partitioning a data warehouse 104, each virtual data island storing client data of a particular nonprofit organization. The virtual data islands reside in the data warehouse 104. This is described in the present application in page 8, lines 19-22:

the data warehouse 104 retains a plurality of nonprofit organizations' (NPOs) donor (or supporter) information in four virtual data islands 108A-108D. Each virtual data island 108 retains data of a particular organization. Each data island includes individual donor records.

The virtual data islands of the present application are further described in page 9, lines 4-6:

As illustrated in FIG. 1, individual NPO's virtual data islands and their records are virtually partitioned by an attribute called `proprietary_id` 112, which establishes the privacy boundaries in the record sets.

In contrast, the donation kettle 100 does not reside inside a data warehouse. This is described in col. 3, lines 47- 58 of Pat '393, wherein the donation kettle 100 is described as a **device** that accepts a cash donation, a credit card donation or a debit card donation. Thus, the donation kettle 100 of Pat '393 is not formed by partitioning a database and the donation kettle 100 does not partition the data of a plurality of client organizations. Also, in contrast to the virtual islands of the present application, the donation kettle 100 does not establish privacy boundaries between client organizations.

Applicants also respectfully disagree with the Examiner's statement that the donation kettles 100 of Pat '393 are partitioned inside the data storage 302. The donation kettle 100, as described in Pat '393, is a donation processing device and does not reside inside the data storage 302. According to Pat '393, the donation kettle 100 temporarily stores information about a donation in the data storage 302 and at a later time communicates it to a computer terminal 120 (FIG. 1). This is stated in col. 3, line 66 - col. 4, line 5 of Pat '393:

the donation kettle 100 first stores the information about the contributor and/or the donation it has accepted in a data storage 302 (FIG. 1a), and then at a later time communicates it to terminal 120. Col. 3, line 66 - col. 4, line 5 of Pat '393.

Claim 1 also includes the following limitation:

the client data containing one or more constituent records (CR)

Applicants submit that, in contrast to the Examiner's statements, there is no teaching or suggestion of client data with one or more constituent records in col. 3, lines 59-65 of Pat '393. Rather, col. 3, lines 59-65 of Pat '393 essentially describe how the donation kettle communicates with a computer terminal using a radio frequency (RF) link.

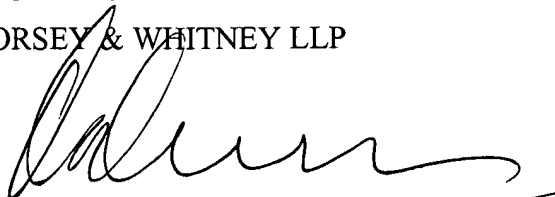
A donation kettle 100 collects and provides information about a contributor and a donation. Using a communication link 140, preferably an RF (radio frequency) communication link, an infra-red or other free-propagating electromagnetic energy communication link, a donation kettle 100 communicates the information about a contributor to terminal 120 in one embodiment. Col 3, lines 59-65 of Pat'393.

For the foregoing reasons, Applicants submit that claim 1 is now allowable. Claims 23, 36 and 37 are independent claims that have been amended to include similar limitations as claim 1. Applicants respectfully request the allowance of these claims. The dependent claims include all features and limitations of the independent claims. Their allowance is also respectfully requested.

Applicants believe that the Application is now in condition for allowance. Accordingly, Applicants request that the Examiner pass the Application to allowance. The Examiner is invited to call the undersigned attorney if a telephone call could help resolve any remaining matters.

Respectfully submitted,

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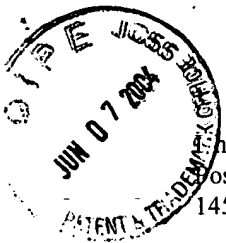
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Enclosures:

Postcard
Fee Transmittal Sheet (+ copy)
Request for Continued Examination (+ copy)
General Authorization

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June 3, 2004
Date

Phoebe E. Pogson
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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Appl. No. : 09/819,358 Confirmation No. : 3309
Applicants : Jeane S. Chen, Ephraim Feig, Dahlia P. Bona, Gregory J. Gould, Harry E. Gruber
Filed : March 28, 2001 Attorney Docket No.: 34271/US
Art Unit : 2171 Customer No. : 27,076
Examiner : Etienne Pierre Leroux
Title : VIRTUAL SHARED DATABASES

GENERAL AUTHORIZATION UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.136(a)(3)

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Sir:

With respect to the above-identified application, the Commissioner is authorized to treat any concurrent or future reply requiring a petition for an extension of time under 37 C.F.R. § 1.136(a)(3) for its timely submission as incorporating a petition therefor for the appropriate length of time. The Commissioner is also authorized to charge any fees which may be required, or credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account No. 50-1266.

Respectfully submitted,
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